

## Message Text

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66

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SCCT-02

SY-04 DRC-01 /103 W

----- 000462

R 041505Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8347

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, AR

SUBJ: RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRATS ASSASSINATION STILL UNKNOWN

REF: BA 7371

1. REMAINS OF GENRERAL PRATS AND HIS WIFE WERE FLOWN TO CHILE ON OCT 2.

2. THE NORMAL PRACTICE FOR ARGENTINE TERRORIST GROUPS IS TO ISSUE A COMMUNIQUE AFTER AN ASSASSINATION OR OTHER ACT TAKING CREDIT FOR IT. NO COMMUNIQUE HAS YET APPEARED REGARDING THE PRATS KILLING HOWEVER. ON BA NEWSPAPER CARRIED AN ACCOUNT QUOTING A FRIEND OF PRATS AS SAYING THAT THE GENERAL HAD BEEN WARNED THAT A CROATIAN DEATH SQUAD HAD BEEN HIRED BY THE RIGHT WING CHILEAN ORGANIZATION "PATRIA Y LIBERTAD" TO KILL HIM.

3. WHILE IT IS MORE LIKELY THAT A RIGHT WING CHILEAN ORGANIZATION IS RESPONSIBLE, THE POSSIBILITY THAT A LOCAL GROUP KILLED HIM CANNOT BE DISCOUNTED. ARGENTINA, WHOSE NEIGHBORS

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ALL HAVE GOVERNMENTS RUN BY OR AT LEAST HEAVILY INFLUENCED

BY THE MILITARY, HAS BEEN A HAVEN FOR POLITICAL EXILES. WITH  
THE RECENT UPSURGE IN RIGHT WING TERRORISM HERE, HOWEVER, IT IS  
POSSIBLE THAT GENERAL PRATS WAS SELECTED TO IMPRESS ON OTHER  
LEFTIST EXILES THAT THEY ARE NO LONGER WELCOME. THERE ALSO  
EXISTS THE MUCH LESS LIKELY POSSIBILITY THAT ARGENTINE  
LEFTISTS DID IT TO FURTHER EMBARRASS THE GOA. IN SUM, AT  
THIS POINT NO ONE CAN SAY WITH ASSURANCE WHO IS RESPONSIBLE.

HILL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, ASSASSINATION, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BUENOS07421  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740282-0136  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741073/aaaackmf.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BA 7371  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRATS ASSASSINATION STILL UNKNOWN  
**TAGS:** PINS, ASEC, AR, (PRATS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005